

Message Text

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ACTION EB-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0040

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 1124

LIMDIS

PASS TREASURY PETER SUCHMAN AND C. FRED BERGSTEN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, BR

SUBJECT: COUNTERVAILING DUTIES

1. IN DISCUSSING THE TREASURY'S LATEST COUNTER-
VAILING DUTY ACTION AGAINST BRAZIL'S EXPORTS OF
SCISSORS AND SHEARS TO THE U.S. WITH
FRANCISCO DORNELLES OF THE FINANCE MINISTRY,
THE FINANCIAL ATTACHE LEARNED THAT THE FINANCE
MINISTRY WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH
TREASURY THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A
PHASEDOWN SCHEDULE OF THE GOB'S SUBSIDIES ON
SCISSORS AND SHEARS AND COTTON YARN IN EXCHANGE
FOR A WAIVER. IN FACT, DORNELLES INDICATED THAT
HE WAS AUTHORIZING HEMMINDINGER, THE MINISTRY'S
ATTORNEY IN WASHINGTON, TO MAKE AN INFORMAL
SOUNDING IN THIS REGARD WITH TREASURY'S
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SUCHMAN. DORNELLES
WOULD LIKE TO TIE IN SUCH AN AGREEMENT WITH
THE POSSIBLE VISIT OF THE FINANCE MINISTER TO
WASHINGTON IN EARLY MARCH.

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2. COMMENT: I STRONGLY URGE THAT THE IDEA
OF WORKING OUT AN ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD
PERMIT THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY TO GRANT
A COUNTERVAILING DUTY WAIVER ON SCISSORS AND
SHEARS AND COTTON YARN BE EXAMINED AT THE
HIGHEST LEVEL OF STATE AND TREASURY. I BELIEVE THIS IS
A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE KIND OF STEPS WE SHOULD

TAKE TO ALLEVIATE, IN NON-NUCLEAR AREAS, THE TENSIONS
ARISING FROM THE NUCLEAR ISSUE.
CRIMMINS

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